DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

July 23, 1996

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 96- 37

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

[X] State Law Change
[ ] Federal Law or Regulation Change
[ ] Court Order
[ ] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
[ ] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: MAXIMUM FAMILY GRANT NOTICE IMPLEMENTATION IN THE AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN (AFDC) PROGRAM

REFERENCE: ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 473 (Chapter 196, Statutes of 1994)
ALL-COUNTY LETTER 94-112

This is to provide counties with the informing notice and instructions to begin the informing requirements for the Maximum Family Grant (MFG) as required in AB 473. Actual application of MFG will begin August 1, 1997.

AB 473 requires that recipients and applicants of AFDC are notified in writing of the new rule and of the impact the rule will have on future aid to the family. The law precludes the application of the MFG rule to any recipient's child any earlier than 12 months after the issuance of the mandated notice.

Therefore, to implement the notice requirements of this law, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) will mail the TEMP 2102 (English on side one/Spanish on side two) to all recipients of AFDC for receipt by July 31, 1996. Commencing August 1, 1996, counties shall provide the TEMP 2102 to all AFDC applicants. **Please note that cases already in the application process on August 1, 1996, will also need to receive this notice.**

Attached to this letter is a reproducible copy of the TEMP 2102. The English and Spanish versions are on separate sheets of paper to facilitate county use of this form. When stock is available in the CDSS warehouse, the TEMP 2102 may be requested according to the forms ordering procedures in the County Forms Catalogue. When available, the CDSS Language Services Bureau will send camera-ready copies of the TEMP 2102 for the Asian language translations to the applicable County Forms Coordinator upon request. For camera-ready copies of the Spanish translation, please contact the CDSS Forms Management. Counties are advised that these forms are designated as "Required Forms, No Substitutes Permitted." An initial supply of this notice has been shipped to counties under separate cover.

CALIFORNIA WORK PAYS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (CWPDP) RESEARCH COUNTIES (Alameda, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, San Joaquin)

Cases assigned to experimental status will be subject to the MFG law change. Cases in control status will not be subject to the MFG law change and will not be sent the TEMP 2102.

CONTACTS

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further information, please contact the following staff:

Subject	Contact Person	Phone
AFDC/MFG	Jane Laciste	(916) 654-1047 or CALNET 464-1047
TEMP 2102	Arlene Jamar	(916) 657-2314 or CALNET 437-2314
Asian Translations	Language Services Bureau	(916) 654-1282 or CALNET 464-1282
English/Spanish	Forms Management	(916) 657-1984 or CALNET 437-1984
Demonstration Projects	Leslie Raderman	(916) 657-2357 or CALNET 437-2357

Sincerely,

Bruce Wagstaff

BRUCE WAGSTAFF
Deputy Director
Welfare Programs Division

The Maximum Family Grant (MFG) Rule for Recipients of Cash Aid

The MFG Rule:

Your maximum aid payment (MAP) **will not** go up to include a child born to your family, if your family got cash aid for the 10 months in a row right before the child's birth.

It is very important that you show this notice to any member of your family who could become a parent.

Facts about the MFG rule...

- the MFG rule could apply to any child born after **July 31, 1997**
- if you have another child and have been on cash aid for 10 months in a row just before the birth of that child, you **will not** get a higher MAP when this child is added to your case
- this child will still be eligible for:
  - Medi-Cal
  - Food Stamps
  - other AFDC benefits, such as child care when the parent goes to work
- all child support payments received by the District Attorney's office for this child will be given to your family and will not be counted as income for cash aid
- the MFG Rule will always apply to this child until your entire family has been off cash aid for at least 24 months in a row

Here's how the MFG rule works...

A mother with one child has been on cash aid for more than 10 months in a row. The mother has a child that is added to the case.

The old rule: The MAP for the family goes up.

The MFG rule: The MAP for the family **does not** go up.

MFG rule will not apply...

- if your entire family was off cash aid for at least two months in a row during the 10 months before the birth of this child
- if this child is not living with either parent
- to a child conceived by a non-needy caretaker relative while getting cash aid for another child, such as his/her nephew, niece, or grandchild
- to any child that was conceived because of:

(1) rape or incest:

You must report the rape or incest no later than three months after the birth of the child to a:

- law enforcement agency or
- medical or mental health professional or
- social services agency

In the case of incest, a report need not be made if paternity has been established.

(2) the failure of:

- an intrauterine device or Norplant or
- the sterilization of either parent

You must give medical proof of any failure of a listed birth control method.

If you have any questions about the MFG rule, ask your worker.

Are you interested in Family Planning Services?

With Family Planning Services, you can...

- prevent unplanned pregnancies
- plan when to have your next child
- choose the birth control method that is best for you

Family Planning Services can give you...

- birth control supplies for women and men
- pregnancy tests
- education/counseling
- and more

You can get Family Planning Services free while on cash aid...

- from your regular Medi-Cal health care plan, doctor, or community clinic
- from other doctors or clinics that accept Medi-Cal

You have the right to go to a doctor or clinic of your choice even if they are not a part of your health care plan.

If you want Family Planning Services...

call your health care plan or regular doctor or for information and the location of confidential Family Planning Services near you, **call toll-free: 1-800-942-1054.**